



One of "America's 100 Best Charities"

—Worth magazine

April 19, 2010

The Honorable Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Chairman, House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security  
House Committee on the Judiciary  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Scott:

On behalf of victims of sexual violence across the nation, I am writing to express my support for H.R. 4614, or "Katie's Law," and to urge your subcommittee to help move this bill through Congress.

One out of every six women and one of 33 men are victims of sexual assault — 20 million Americans in all, according to the Department of Justice. Rapists tend to be serial criminals, often committing many crimes before they are finally caught. Running the DNA from felony arrestees against the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) has the potential to help solve thousands of violent crimes, many of them cold cases in which victims have nearly given up any hope of justice. It also has the potential to help prevent countless future attacks, by taking these violent criminals off the streets.

We believe it is in the best interests of victims of sexual violence, and of the nation at large, to enact Katie's Law in order to give states an incentive to fully use all evidence at their disposal. As of this month, 22 states have passed laws allowing collection of DNA from at least some felony arrestees, which indicates a clear national trend. By passing Katie's Law, Congress can turn that trend into a national norm that will enhance public safety and provide justice to victims. I'd also note that the bill contains an expungement provision in order to protect the innocent.

RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) is the nation's largest anti-sexual assault organization. RAINN created and operates the National Sexual Assault Hotlines (800.656.HOPE and [rainn.org](http://rainn.org)), which have helped more than 1.4 million people since 1994. RAINN also carries out programs to prevent sexual assault, help victims and ensure that rapists are brought to justice. For more information about RAINN, please visit [rainn.org](http://rainn.org).

Thank you for your consideration of Katie's Law, and for your continuing leadership in the battle to prevent sexual violence and prosecute its perpetrators.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Berkowitz", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Scott Berkowitz  
President and Founder

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